

**From:** Ron MacKinnon  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/25/02 7:12pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

To Whom It May Concern;

I'd like to add my concern to the many others who have already made their feelings known on this matter.

I am very practical and pragmatic as to the tools I use, and I don't care much where a quality product comes from. If Microsoft software was the best available and Microsoft had become the dominant player simply due to the fact that they had the best tool for the job at hand and had risen to the top on true merit, I would really have no problem with their being the dominant player in the computing world. I don't want to turn this into a diatribe on the quality of Microsoft's products, but the above is simply not the case.

Microsoft has become the dominant player on the computing desktop through the use of anti-competitive tactics, force, bullying, and the use of a tremendous amount of money and other influence, irrespective of the quality of their products. I believe that the proposed settlement between the Government and Microsoft is a disservice to the tax-paying public. I cannot feel that my wishes have been served by this inadequate solution.

Microsoft must be forced to compete on a level playing field along with all other companies with similar products to offer. If the proposed settlement is allowed, they will simply continue as they have been in the past.

An inadequately subdued Microsoft will continue to attempt to disallow my choice in computing software and hardware. They will continue in their attempt to force me to do my work (and play!) the way they think I should, according to their "vision" for my computing future. They will continue to limit my choices and my options. They have leveraged themselves into a position where they can decide for me how I will use my computer, and almost completely choose what kind that computer will be and what system and application software will be on it.

I have great hope that my voice, and those of the many others who have taken the time to respond to this issue, will be heard and that our wishes will be served.

Thank you very much;

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